

**Amendments to the Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an animal having depression, a condition that results in depression, or a similar condition, comprising administering to the animal a~~The use of a combined composition comprising hydrocortisone and a delivery vehicle wherein said delivery vehicle provides for delayed and sustained release of hydrocortisone, for the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of depression, or a condition which results in depression, or similar condition.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The method of Use according to Cclaim 1, wherein said disease or condition ~~[[is]] comprises: selected from the group consisting of: depression, a sleep disorder[[,]]; fatigue[[,]]; abnormal eating[[,]]; addiction[[,]]; anxiety[[,]]; jet lag-chronic fatigue syndrome; myalgic encephalitis; jet lag; shift work[[,]]; depression resulting from a person being overweight; depression resulting from dieting; depression resulting from the treatment of cigarette addiction; depression resulting from the treatment of alcohol addiction; depression resulting from the treatment of drug addiction; or the treatment of seasonal affective disorder or a like condition.~~
3. (Currently Amended) The method of Use according to Cclaim 1, [[2]] wherein the animal has ~~said disease or condition is depression, or similar condition.~~
4. (Currently Amended) The method of Use according to Cclaim 3, wherein the depression is clinical depression, reactive depression, or post-natal depression.
5. – 6. (Canceled)
7. (Currently Amended) The method of Use according to Cclaim 1, wherein the condition results from the administration of an antipsycotic drug.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of Use according to Claim 7,~~ wherein the antipsychotic drug is ~~selected from the group consisting of: clozapine, olanzapine, risperidone, quetiapine or sertindole.~~
9. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of diseases or conditions that result in depression, or a condition which results in depression, or similar condition, comprising the steps of:
- i) providing a combined preparation of hydrocortisone, or a functional variant thereof, and a delivery vehicle wherein said vehicle provides for the sustained release of hydrocortisone or variant thereof;
  - ii) administering the combined preparation in (i) to an animal requiring treatment such that hydrocortisone, or variant thereof, is released in a sustained manner;
  - iii) providing a combined preparation of hydrocortisone, or variant thereof, and a delivery vehicle wherein said vehicle provides for the delayed but sustained release of hydrocortisone, or variant thereof; and
  - iv) administering the combined preparation in (iii) to an animal requiring treatment such that hydrocortisone, or variant thereof, is released in a delayed but sustained manner.
10. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ [[A]] method according to ~~Claim claim~~ claim 9, wherein said disease or condition is depression.
11. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ [[A]] method according to ~~Claim claim~~ claim 9, or 10 wherein said animal is administered hydrocortisone which is released in a sustained manner which is followed by hydrocortisone which is released in a delayed but sustained manner.
12. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ [[A]] method ~~according to any of Claims claim 9, [[-11]]~~ wherein said animal is human.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~The [[A]] method according to any of Claims claim 9, [[-12]]~~  
wherein said functional variant of hydrocortisone is cortisol or cortisone.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The [[A]] method according to any of Claims claim 9, [[-13]]~~  
wherein said condition comprises ~~is selected from the group consisting of:~~ chronic fatigue syndrome; myalgic encephalitis; jet lag; shift work; depression resulting from ~~a person~~ being overweight; depression resulting from ~~a person~~ dieting; depression resulting from ~~the~~ treatment of addiction, ~~for example smoking or drugs;~~ alcohol addiction; or ~~the treatment of~~ seasonal affective disorder or a like condition.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~The [[A]] method according to Claim claim 9,~~ wherein said condition results from the administration of an antipsychotic drug.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The [[A]] method according to Claim claim 15,~~ wherein said antipsychotic drug is ~~selected from the group consisting of:~~ clozapine, olanzapine, risperidone, quetiapine or sertindole.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The [[A]] method according to any of Claims claim 9, [[-16]]~~  
wherein said sustained release preparation is administered in the morning, ~~preferably between 08:00 and 12:00.~~

18. (Currently Amended) ~~The [[A]] method according to any of Claims claim 9, [[-16]]~~  
wherein said delayed and sustained release formulation is administered in the evening, ~~preferably between 18:00 and 24:00.~~

19. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting side effects due to administration of a glucocorticoid, comprising administering to an animal ~~The use of a combined~~ composition comprising a glucocorticoid[[,]] and a delivery vehicle, wherein said delivery vehicle provides for delayed and sustained release said glucocorticoid ~~for the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of side effects due to the administration of said glucocorticoid.~~

20. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim~~Use according to Claim 19, wherein said glucocorticoid is ~~selected from the group consisting of:~~ hydrocortisone or a functional variant thereof; cortisol; cortisone acetate; prednisolone; prednisone; or dexamethasone.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim~~Use according to Claim 19, ~~or 20~~ wherein said side effect is increasing weight gain, reduction in bone density, muscle or skin wastage, or insulin resistance.

22. - 24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of an animal ~~which animal is suffering from~~ having side effects as a result of glucocorticoid administration, comprising ~~the steps of:~~

- i) providing a combined preparation of a glucocorticoid and a delivery vehicle wherein said vehicle provides for the sustained release of said glucocorticoid;
- ii) administering the combined preparation in (i) to an animal requiring treatment such that the glucocorticoid is released in a sustained manner;
- iii) providing a combined preparation of a glucocorticoid and a delivery vehicle wherein said vehicle provides for the delayed but sustained release of said glucocorticoid; and
- iii) administering the combined preparation in (iii) to an animal requiring treatment such that the glucocorticoid is released in a delayed but sustained manner.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ [[A]] method according to Claim 25, wherein said glucocorticoid is ~~selected from the group consisting of:~~ hydrocortisone or a functional variant thereof; cortisol; cortisone acetate; prednisolone; prednisone; or dexamethasone.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ [[A]] method according to ~~Claim~~ claim 25, ~~or 26~~ wherein said side effect is increasing weight gain, reduction in bone density, muscle or skin wastage, or insulin resistance.

28. - 30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A method of restoring and entraining an endogenous circadian rhythm of cortisol in an animal having a condition that does not result from cortisol deficiency but is a consequence of a disruption in the normal circadian secretion of cortisol, comprising administering to the animal ~~The use of a combined composition comprising hydrocortisone and a delivery vehicle, wherein said delivery vehicle provides for delayed and sustained release of hydrocortisone, for the manufacture of a medicament to restore and entrain the endogenous circadian rhythm of cortisol in conditions that do not result from cortisol deficiency but are a consequence of a disruption in the normal circadian secretion of cortisol.~~